

I oppose loosening the rules designed to promote and protect diversity of media ownership. These rules were adopted to ensure that the public would receive a diverse range of viewpoints from the media, and not simply the opinions of a handful of media conglomerates. The cable ownership

cap is a crucial element of our democratic media, and it should not be weakened.

Concentration of media into just a few hands is the antithesis of a true democracy which calls for a wide range of voices and opinions to be heard. It seems contradictory to me that the FCC saw fit to break up AT&T - a breakup of a system that was 100% American supplying jobs to several hundred thousands of Americans, a breakup that caused the loss of untold thousands of jobs in this country, and yet now this very same agency wants to allow the creation of monopolies in the media realm. I smell a rat.

I urge you to retain the caps currently in place for cable ownership as well as keep the present broadcast/newspaper cross-ownership rule. If anything, we should be encouraging the creation of diversity and choice in media, not a take-it-or-leave-it fascist system of no choice.